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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1 (currently amended): A conveyor for transporting load carriers, in particular standardized pallets, skids or containers, said conveyor comprising:

frame parts which stand on the floor and on which are arranged load-bearing members which are spaced apart parallel to one another and are intended for accommodating drivable load-bearing elements which form longitudinally running load-bearing tracks for the load carriers on the load-bearing elements; and

modular-construction conveying units, said conveying units being at least one of mechanically connected and electrically connected so that said conveying units are joined as a functional conveyor assembly, each load-bearing element of at least two laterally spaced-apart load-bearing members of each conveyor unit comprising an endlessly circulating load-bearing belt, ~~which bears said load bearing belt bearing the load carriers and, for its part,~~ is being supported on a plurality of spaced apart load-bearing rollers, which are mounted on the load-bearing members, with a small distance gap between their centers respective adjacent pairs of said rollers, and which circulate in the conveying direction, said gap between said rollers being less than the dimension of a diameter of one of said rollers.

2 (currently amended): The conveyors as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing belts ~~are designed as comprise~~ toothed belts, of which the teeth arranged on the underside, for the purpose of transmitting the driving torque, engage in the correspondingly designed teeth of at least one driving gearwheel.

3 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing members are formed from a rolled steel profile or angled sheet metal.

4 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing members are formed from an extruded aluminum profile.

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5 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each load-bearing member ~~is made up of~~ comprises a load-bearing profile and a bar, which is positioned in an exchangeable manner on the load-bearing profile and in which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt are mounted.

6 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the load-bearing profile is open at least on one of its longitudinal sides.

7 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the load-bearing profile of each load-bearing member is cross-sectionally C-shaped and the bar, which can be positioned on the load-bearing profile, is ~~of~~ cross-sectionally U-shaped ~~design~~, the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt being mounted in the legs of the U-shaped profile of the bar.

8 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim ~~7~~ 6, characterized in that the load-bearing profile of each load-bearing member is ~~of~~ cross-sectionally C-shaped ~~design~~, and fastened on the load-bearing profile are two vertical metal plates which are spaced apart parallel to one another in the longitudinal direction and between which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belts are mounted.

9 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that at least one of the C-shaped load-bearing profiles of the load-bearing members is installed on the frame parts with the opening in the outward direction and the cavity within the C-shaped load-bearing profile, ~~it being possible for said cavity to be being~~ closed by a covering plate, is said at least one C-shaped load-bearing profile of the load-bearing members being configured as a cable duct and/or for accommodating electrical or electronic components.

10 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the U-shaped bar ~~can be~~ is positioned on the load-bearing profile, and screwed to the latter, with

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the opening in the downward direction, and the load-bearing rollers have their running surfaces for the load-bearing belt projecting upward through cutouts provided in the bar.

11 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the load-bearing profile of each load-bearing member is provided with T-grooves which run in the longitudinal direction and are provided for fastening at least one of frame parts, drive parts, initiators, control means and/or the U-shaped bar to said load-bearing member.

12 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that in each case at least two load-bearing members ~~can be~~ are joined together with the frame parts and supporting feet to form one of a number of autonomous conveyor units of the same construction, in which are integrated in each case at least one drive and control elements for the load-bearing elements of this one conveyor unit, ~~it being possible for these to be linked~~ said at least one drive and control elements of said one conveyor unit being linked for control purposes to further drives and control means of ~~this or adjacent other~~ conveyor units.

13 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that in each case at least two load-bearing members ~~can be~~ are joined together with the frame parts and supporting feet to form one of a number of autonomous conveyor units of the same construction, in which are integrated in each case at least one drive and control elements for the load-bearing elements of this one conveyor unit, ~~it being possible for these to be linked~~ said at least one drive and control elements of said one conveyor unit being linked for control purposes to further drives and control means of ~~this or adjacent other~~ conveyor units.

14 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that ~~it is possible to synchronize~~ the accelerating and braking processes between preceding and following conveyor units are synchronized.

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15 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, in order to form three load-bearing tracks, each conveyor unit contains three loading-bearing members with load-bearing elements, of which at least the two outer load-bearing elements have load-bearing belts supported on load-bearing rollers.

16 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that, of three load-bearing tracks, only the load-bearing elements of the central load-bearing track ~~can be~~ are driven.

17 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 13, characterized in that each autonomous conveyor unit is ~~slightly~~ larger, in respect of its length and width measurements, than the dimensions of an individual load carrier which is to be transported.

18 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the drive for a load-bearing element comprises a prefabricated drive station which ~~can be~~ is screwed onto the load-bearing profile in the end region and has an integrated motor, gear mechanism and drive chain or belt and a driving gearwheel, which is mounted in a floating manner, about which the load-bearing belt is deflected, and the top of which is arranged in the load-bearing plane of the load-bearing rollers.

19 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the motor and the gear mechanism are flanged directly onto the driving gearwheel, which is mounted in a floating manner.

20 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the driving wheel is larger than the load-bearing rollers, and a smaller-diameter guard roller is arranged between the driving gearwheel and at least one of the directly adjacent load-bearing roller ~~and/or~~ and the driving or deflecting wheel of the adjacent conveyor unit.

21 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 20, characterized in that each load-bearing member is made up of a load-bearing profile and a bar, which is positioned in an

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exchangeable manner on the load-bearing profile and in which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt are mounted, wherein the load-bearing belt can be tensioned by displacement of the bar relative to the driving gearwheel.

22 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 20, characterized in that the load-bearing belt is tensioned by a tensioning roller provided in the bottom strand.

23 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each load-bearing element is assigned a dedicated drive station with motor, and the motors of all the drive stations of a conveyor unit are synchronized with one another via an electronic shaft.

24 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that at least two load-bearing elements of a conveyor unit are each assigned a dedicated drive station with motor, and the drive stations ~~can be~~ are activated differently in order to achieve a differential speed for the load-bearing elements.

25 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that at least two load-bearing elements of a conveyor unit are driven via a common motor, and the driving wheels of the load-bearing elements are connected to one another via a mechanical shaft.

26 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing belt comprises a toothed belt, said load-bearing belt having on its underside, alongside regions which are toothed in order to drive the load-bearing belt, smooth regions which rest on the load-bearing rollers in order to bear the load resting on the load-bearing belt.

27 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that the toothed region is provided with a ~~standard-tooth~~ toothing formation having a plurality of generally straight teeth extending laterally across said belt.

28 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that the toothed region is provided with a ~~special-tooth~~ toothing formation in which the tooth widths are

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larger than the tooth gaps.

29 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that the toothed regions of the load-bearing belt, which is designed as a toothed belt, are accommodated in circumferentially running grooves of at least one of the driving wheels ~~and/or~~ and load-bearing rollers.

30 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing belt is provided with reinforcements which increase the tensile strength.

31 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 30, characterized in that the reinforcements consist of embedded steel wire, Kevlar material or woven fabric made of such materials or other tension-resistant materials.

32 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 30, characterized in that the load-bearing belt is provided with a traction-increasing top side.

33 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 32, characterized in that the top side of the load-bearing belt is provided with a profile in the manner of a vehicle tire having a plurality of ribs that extend at different angles across said belt.

34 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the profile is configured such that the traction is as ~~high as possible~~ higher in the longitudinal direction and as ~~low as possible~~ lower in the transverse direction.

35 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 33, characterized in that the profile is designed to be arrow-shaped, half-moon-shaped or interrupted or rectilinear throughout.

36 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the load-bearing rollers ~~and/or~~ and the driving gearwheels are designed with flanged wheels for guiding at least one of the load-bearing belt ~~and/or~~ and the load carrier.

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37 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the driving gearwheels are of a convex, trapezoidal or convex-cylindrical design.

38 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the modular-constructed conveying units, completely preassembled and subjected to final testing, ~~can be put~~ are assembled together to form the conveyor at the use location.

39 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each load-bearing member ~~is made up of~~ comprises a load-bearing profile and a bar, which is positioned in an exchangeable manner on the load-bearing profile and in which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt are mounted, wherein the bars, in which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt are mounted, and the load-bearing profiles ~~can be shortened, with the result that it is possible~~ are adjustable to vary the length of the conveying units.

40 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the load-bearing members of the conveyor units ~~can be~~ are connected to one another at their mutually facing ends via metal plates with fastening bores provided at unit spacings.

41 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each load-bearing member comprises ~~is made up of~~ a load-bearing profile and a bar.

42 (original): The conveyor as claimed in claim 41, characterized in that the load-bearing profile is open at least on one of its longitudinal sides.

43 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim 42, characterized in that the load-bearing profile of each load-bearing member is cross-sectionally C-shaped and the bar, which can be positioned on the load-bearing profile, is ~~of~~ cross-sectionally U-shaped design, the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt being mounted in the legs of the U-shaped profile of the bar.

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44 (currently amended): The conveyor as claimed in claim ~~42~~ 43, characterized in that the bar is positioned in an exchangeable manner on the load-bearing profile and in which the load-bearing rollers for the load-bearing belt are mounted, wherein the metal plates are cut out at the C-shaped openings of the load-bearing members.